G. R. S. 58]

7

Previous references.
Edn 310-13. dt 1-5

File No. 2-15

1915.
(Edn.)

Serial Nos. 47, 57 & 62

Later references.
Edn 2-4. dt 115. 138
Edn 212. 66 & 15. dt 4

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

P

Serial Nos. 47, 57 & 62.

Part B for December, 1915.

SUBJECT.

Re: the increasing of the Scholarship of Mr. M. G. Srinivasa Rao, Studying in America.

Serial 62.

To the Dy. of Education.
& a Comptroller
No. 3011-2. dt. 28.12.1915.

Approves of Mr. Srinivasa Rao's action in joining the Harvard university and sanctions the additional Scholarship required as an advance.

W D 1851—GPB—20,000—13-12-15

2

G. R. S. 11] 1915.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Edu)

NOTES.

File No. 2

FILE HEADING.

Foreign Scholarships.

From

The D.G. of Edu.

No. 8325/388 Dated 4.11.15 Received 13.11.15

Diary No. 1736 | Enclos. 1 file Spare Copies. — | Serial No. 47

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Recommends that the foreign schp. of £ 200 sanctioned to Mr. M.G. Srinivasa Rao for studying organic chemistry, may be enhanced to £ 235 with effect from the date of his landing in America viz. 15.7.15, on account of the ~~costly~~ costliness of living in that place.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Mr. M.G. Srinivasa Rao was granted a Damodar Das schp. of £ 200 per annum for a period of two years in G.O. no. 45-6/Edu 370-13 dt 2.7.14.

X M

NOTES—First Sheet.

GPB—20,000—3-2-14

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General and Revenue Secretariat.

Edn File No. 2 of 1915

Serial No.

2 A family allowance of Rs. 50 p.m. or £ 40 per annum has also been sanctioned to him during the period of his study.

X H

3 From the account of the Universities given by Mr. M. G. Srinivasa Rao himself there is not much to choose between the different Universities, and the University of Illinois has very much the same curricula as that of Harward, and it is sufficiently cheap. Mr Srinivasa Rao says that the present account of schp. of £ 200 will suffice if he is permitted to go to Illinois instead of to Harward.

~~Mr. Usher~~

4 Mr. Usher whose opinion would be very useful in the matter states that he has never seen the places refd. to and his present opinion is more in calculating the likely percentage of increase in the costliness of living on account of the war, than in selecting any particular University as the best fitted for the study of organic chemistry. Moreover the Professor under whom Mr. Usher would

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—30-6-15.

Serial No.

have Mr. Srinivasa Rao trained is now retired from service.

5 It is also for consideration that the opinion of Mr. Forbes is at one place

> 'It is very highly commendable in Mr. Srinivasa Rao in only asking an additional £35',

and at the end of his letter

> 'Any of our students could secure the very best of education and training in any line at about £100 per annum exclusive of travelling expenses to & from America'.

6 Further the University of Illinois is a State University, and Mr. Srinivasa Rao has stated that failing a cable before 5.10.15, he would join Illinois.

7 An add. £35 per annum is required only if he is asked to stick to Harvard, ~~or to~~ Chicago, etc. except Illinois.

8 Under the rules for the grant of foreign scholarships. the maximum amount per annum is £200. If the Govt. decide on the grant of any additional amount Pr. II may be consulted.

9 (The amount of the Universities

1736

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4

Serial No.

especially about the laboratories is not very encouraging).

10 Submit for orders.

8/9. 16.11.15 Mr Srinivasachari's letter is very interesting. He requests either permission to join the Illinois university or an increase of 35 Rs per annum if he is to continue at Boston. Neither the usher nor Mr Robbs has given any opinion about the Illinois university. Mr Srinivasachari says that if he does not get any cable from the Dy of Edn on or before 5th oct, he may join the Illinois university. The Director-general does not say whether he sent him any cable or not. Mr Srinivasachari's letter is dated 12th aug. & it is sent by post for orders on 4th nov.

Received on 12th nov. Mr S wanted orders by 5th oct if cable

Either permission may be given to Mr S to join Illinois university or his scholarship may be increased by 35 Rs, in either case, a cable being ordered to be sent. This file emphasises ~~emphasises~~ the necessity of

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—30-6-15.

1786

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6

G. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | Ed | File No. 2 of 1915.

Serial No.

I believe this is worthy of the attention of the Education Committee
A
17/11/

being worked up with full details before sending our students or officers abroad for study. & giving them a written guidance in foreign countries where they have at present.

For orders

Secy
17/11

12 The best plan seems to be to cable to ~~the Secy~~ Mr. Srinivasa Rao and find out what University he has joined. If he has joined the Illinois University there is no necessity to increase the scholarship. Otherwise I am afraid the amount has to be raised

A
17/11/15

1st Member

13 If Mr. Srinivasa Rao has joined any of the more expensive Universities, the 35£ asked for may

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—80-6-15.

1736

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G. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Ed File No. 2 of 1915.

Serial No.

be sanctioned.

14 It is unfortunate that we have not more accurate information of educational facilities in America and that European universities are closed to us.

20/11/15

15 Information may kindly be obtained through the Residency or the American Consul at Bombay as regards the amount of scholarship paid to Chinese and Japanese students in America under the present circumstances.

2568
23.11.15

16 In the meanwhile Mr. Srinivasa Rao may be informed at once that he should choose the University where he can get the most satisfactory instruction and that if any addition to the scholarship is required, it will be sanctioned as an advance, pending further enquiries into the sufficiency or otherwise of the amount already sanctioned.

2.12.15

17 Put up

2/12/15

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—30-6-15

W. SM

8
7

J. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Eou File No. 2 of 191 5

Serial No.	
18	Submitted with two drafts.
19	In the meantime the following letter has been received from the D.G. of Eou.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—30-6-15

1952

8/9

R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Edu. File No. 2 of 1915.

Serial No.

8) From the Dy. of Edu. 9688-90/435-8 22.11.15 recd. 30.11.15

Submits for information copy of a letter of 14.10.15 from Mr. M.G. Srinivasa Rao in America giving some details of the cost of life there & requesting an increase of £35 to his Schp. per annum.

20 The Scholar has made another request now; and that is the Schp. may be paid ~~at~~ to him in dollars at 4/90 per pound. It is stated that at the present rates of exchange there is enormous loss.

21 It is for consideration whether by paying as requested by Mr. Srinivasa Rao Gov. will not be subjected to additional cost.

22 The previous Ps. were submd. to Secretary on 22.11.15.

Submd. 23 Proceedings

[illegible]
3.12.15

4/12

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—30-6-15.

1952

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9

J. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Ecc File No. 2 of 1915.

Serial No.

24 Now that Mr. Srinivasa Rao has settled where he should stay and has joined the Harvard Univ. no orders are required to inform him that he should choose the most suitable Univ.

25 The draft G.O. put up seems to be unnecessary.

26 The draft letter to the Residency is for orders.

27 If an addn. to the Schp. is decided on Pr. II has to be consulted.

28 The rate of exchange prayed for by Mr. Srinivasa Rao is another point for orders.

29 I think the suggn. of the Residency may be approved, the suggn. in view of the slight alterations seemed necessary, may be sent for approval to 1st Member Devan & then issued. Subsequently the file may be sent to Branch II for opinion

8/12 6.12.15

30 Drafts may be approved (I shall find out the amount myself & write to friends)

1st Member Devan

8/12/15

9/12

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—30-6-15

1952

11

J. R. S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat. | Educn File No. 2 of 1915.

	Serial No.	
		Draft appd. by First member 16.12.15. MTS
L.S. 1.9		R 17/12/
3167 18/12/15		Dewan) kr 17/12
		Draft approved by Dewan. 28/12/15. mme kr 23/12
		kr
		To Mr
	62	Dy. of Education & Comptroller. no. 3011-2. Dt. 28.12.1915.
		Approves of Mr. Sreenivasa Rao's joining the Harvard University and sanctions the additional scholarship as an advance.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—20,000—30-6-15

12

GPB—3,210—1-6-15

Edn. 15]

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION IN MYSORE.

No. 8325 / 388

Bangalore, 4th November *1915*

DIARY No. 1736
10-11
SECTION Ed
No. 2-15
No. 47

From

Rao Bahadur
M. SHAMA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,
Inspector-General of Education in Mysore.

To

Peter George D'Souza, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Education and Agriculture *Department.*

SIR,

With reference to Government Order No.45-6/Edn.370-13-2 dated 2nd July 1914 sanctioning a scholarship of £200 per annum for two years to Mr. M.G. Srinivasa Rao, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Central College, Bangalore to undergo training in Organic Chemistry in England and Government Order No.2371-2/Edn.2-14-117 dated 8th January 1915 permitting Mr. Srinivasa Rao to undergo training in the Harward University in America instead of in England, I have the honour to submit herewith copy of letter dated 12th August 1915 from Mr. Srinivasa Rao, representing that on account of the War, the cost of living and studying at Boston has considerably increased and praying for an additional scholarship of £35 per annum. Messrs. F.L. Usher and Forbes who were consulted by me as to the cost of living in America, state that it is not possible for a student to live on £200 per annum in America at present and that the additional scholarship of £35 prayed for by Mr. Srinivasa Rao is modest. I therefore recommend that Mr. Srinivasa Rao's scholarship may be raised to £235 per annum with effect from the date of his landing in America, viz., 15th July 1915. Copies of letters from Messrs. Usher and Forbes are also enclosed.

Submitted in another connection with a Rev. Pay. file

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
M. Shama Rao,
INSPECTOR GENERAL

TNR

12th August 1915

Boston, (Mas.) U.S.A.

To

M. Shama Rao, Esq., M.A.,

Inspector General of Education in Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir,

I beg to inform you that I arrived at S. Francisco about the middle of last month after a long sea voyage of about 38 days. On my arrival I was taken over to the immigration camp known as Angel Island along with a hundred Japanese and Chinese passengers who all travelled in 3rd class. After vigorous protests from me that I was a first class passenger, that I was not an immigrant and that I was a Government servant and scholarship holder I was allowed to go after a detention of one day and one night.

I expected a communication from Government regarding my application requesting permission to study the Exhibition. Having received none, I could not stay there long enough to go thro' the Exhibition in detail though I stayed there long enough to recuperate my health which had grown very poor owing to unwholesome food and seasickness. While there I made enquiries regarding the best place to go to for the study of Organic Chemistry and I beg to give in detail all the information I have gathered since regarding a few Universities here:-

I learnt only on coming to Boston that Prof. Jackson under whom Mr. Usher wanted me to work had retired from service and that one Prof. Kohler had taken his place. This latter is not so famous as Prof. Jackson and I hear that he in conjunction with Prof. A. Michael who is very well known, make the instruction in Organic Chemistry and keep the standard as high as ever. But the Laboratory itself and especially the "research Organic Laboratory" are very poor and not worthy of the

fame

fame of a long and old established University like Harward. The Professors some of whom I saw on coming here are quite conscious of this defect and say that they feel ashamed to own such a sorry Laboratory. But this University is not a State aided one and consequently they are collecting funds to build a nice Laboratory on a fitting scale. But the Professors have got neat and private little Laboratories where they conduct most of their own researches, tho' the students generally have to work in places which are dark, dirty and having one sink for about a dozen students. The General Laboratory for undergraduates is also bad, having two or 3 sinks for over a class of about 50 students.

This is not only not liberal but depressing, and this Department with its Laboratory is smaller than our Laboratory in Bangalore and about a hundred times worse regarding equipment, neatness and arrangements. But Professor C.Lamb, whose note I enclose herewith says that a student of Organic Chemistry will have to spent atleast 275 dollors a year, i.e. about 23 dollors a month including College fees and Laboratory fees. This amount he remarked would not cover expenses due to probable breakages, entrance fee (i.e. for registering for the matric) athletic fees, fees for chemical societies and fees for the application of the Ph.D. Degree -- all of which he thinks will work up to about 330 dollors a year or very nearly Rs.1000. This amount of fees cannot possible be met with out of the £200 scholarship kindly sanctioned to me by Government.

Professor Lamb remarked that the cost of working in Harward especially in Chemistry would be great and owing to War conditions, they have pasted all over the Laboratory, notices that students must very sparingly use the chemicals. In the University of Illinois e.g. about which I write some notes hereafter, the cost is about one-third of that here - owing to the fact that that University is a State University.

If therefore you should in consultation with Mr. Usher decide that I should study in Harward despite the fact that Prof. Jackson is not here, I beg to inform you that my scholarship amount should

be ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ raised by at least £35 per year, i.e. by about Rs.525 a year. This still leaves me about Rs.450 more to be paid of the scholarship amount at present sanctioned to me. As I have mentioned before the Professors here think that Prof. Jackson has been well replaced by Mr. Kohler.

Mr. Lamb also told me that before I came to Boston he and Mr.Kohler had a talk about me. Mr. Usher's letter written to Prof. Jackson was sent to Mr. Kohler with a request from Prof. Jackson that I should be taken into the research class. But Mr. Kohler (who is away from Boston now because of the vacation) wanted to decide after seeing me and after learning what work I had actually done and will perhaps see me in September. But Mr. Lamb to whom I explained in detail my qualifications, thinks that there will not be any trouble in my being admitted to the University. He of course wished that I should see the Laboratory and then decide if I was going to work or not there. Though a neat laboratory does not always imply good research work, it at any rate conduces to it, but I leave it to you and to Mr. Usher to decide where I should study, after a mature consideration of all that is known about the different Universities.

Next writing about the University of Illinois, I beg to give extracts from a letter written to me by Prof. W.A. Noyes of that University; the original I had to send to Prof. Steiglitz of the Chicago University according to the instructions of Prof. Noyes. He writes:- "I can assure you that you can get excellent work in Organic Chemistry at the University of Illinois. I shall be pleased to undertake the direction of your research work in that subject and you would find very satisfactory direction in such work from Assistant Professor C.C. Dirich who is in charge. I can give you no positive information about your taking a degree" (he refers to the Ph.D. Degree), "without more exact knowledge of the work you have taken. I think you can make no mistake in asking of your Government permission to work at this University ~~xxxx~~ instead of

Harvard. You would of course get good work at Harvard. Other Universities I would recommend you are Michigan under Prof. Gomberg and Chicago under Prof. Steiglitz. I would suggest that you consult with Prof Steiglitz showing him this letter etc. etc.". According to Prof. Noyes I can work at Illinois, Harvard, Chicago or Michigan and the only advantage at Illinois is that being a Government Institution the fees are lower, but otherwise there is not much to choose between these. If you decide that I should work at Illinois (I believe Mr. Usher thinks it is not quite a good one for Organic), the scholarship now sanctioned to me will be just enough and perhaps I may not ask for more.

On my way to Boston, I went to the University of Chicago and saw two or 3 of the Assistant Professors. They opine that for my purpose it would be better if I spent one year at Chicago attending the lectures of the famous man Dr. Nef and of Steiglitz who, I know, is as good in Organic as Dr. Nef is in Physical Chemistry. The other year they say I may spend at Harvard or Illinois or Cornell, where Prof. Orendorff is a well known Organic Chemist and a Berlin Ph.D. like Prof. Steiglitz. No other Professors of the American Universities are Ph.D's of Germany except the 2 above mentioned. I mean in Chemistry. Mr. Usher I think will be a better judge as to who I have to work under, Professor Michael and Kohler of Harvard, Dr. Steiglitz of Chicago, Professor Noyes or Professors Gomberg or Ornderff. They are all quite good I think and there is not much to choose, though Prof. Steiglitz is certainly better than any of them. He is of the University of Chicago.

But to study in any University other than Illinois is as costly as what I have given for Harward, and if you should determine I should study in any of the above except Illinois, I beg that an increase of scholarship amount be kindly made at the same time.

Amidst all the conflicting opinions received from different Professors I find it hard to decide, so that I leave it to you and to

Mr. Usher to decide on my future place of study. Meanwhile I have been seeking in some factories for some kind of chemical work to busy myself till I begin regular work. It is pretty hard to get entrance into any factory (tho' the demand for chemists is getting ~~ex~~ very great) considering that I intend to go there only for 4 or 5 weeks.

In connection with my request to raise the amount of my scholarship, I beg to inform you that students from China and Japan receive from their respective Governments when sent by them, 250£ per year -- £50 more than what has been sanctioned to me. I also beg to give in a separate sheet some details re. the cost of living here in order that you can realise the situation in which I am placed and why I request for more money. I have mentioned the details separately, so that in case you desire to detach that before sending this to Government for further orders, you may do so. I may also mention that where students are sent for applied mechanics, Engineering, Chemistry etc. they have to work in factories and as they turn out work profitable to the workshops and factories, they are all paid and that supplements whatever scholarship they would otherwise receive. In my case I have to spend and spend heavily on all that I have to work at. Before leaving India at the instance of Dr. Coleman (who remarked that my scholarship amount would never suffice if I had to study in Harward - his brother having studied there he know he said it was very costly), I informed you that my scholarship was not enough. You were kind enough to tell me that you would consider my request favourably if it was made after actually studying the local conditions in America and I enclose therefore the note of Prof. Lamb, who is the Director of the Laboratory in the University of Harward and also the details of expenses of living in any city in America; my Indian friends here and the American gentlemen whose acquaintance I made here say that the cost of living is very much the same, being somewhat costlier in the West than in the East, i.e. being costlier in San-Francisco than in Boston. I find it to be so too.

May I therefore request that you will kindly <u>cable</u> to me your decision, as this letter takes nearly six weeks to reach you and long

before

your reply can reach me, the colleges will have begun to work? So I may expect your cable sometime before the 5th October and if I do not receive it, I may take it for granted that I am allowed the discretion of taking one thing with another. I may after all choose to go to Illinois as it is cheaper in fees without at the same time being worse than the other Universities in Chemistry instruction. This is if I do not receive your cable. I beg to be cabled along with the place of study also that my scholarship will be increased by at least £35 per year, as otherwise I beg to inform you that to study in Harward or Chicago will not be possible owing to very heavy tuition and Laboratory fees.

My address here is care of Messrs. Thomas Cook & Sons; Washington Street, Boston.

I beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd) M.G.Srinivasa Rao,

Asst. Profr. on deputation.

P.S. I have received no intimation from Messrs. Coutts & Co., as to how and when the scholarship amount will be paid to me. I had requested that arrangements be kindly made to pay soon after arrival in Boston the £65, being the remainder of half year amount. I have written a letter to Messrs. Coutts & Co., London. If I do not receive intimation from them within two weeks, I may have to cable to you or to the Comptroller for money, as what I brought with me may last me for a week or two more.

(Sd) M.G. Srinivasa Rao.

"C O P Y"

Yes.

TMR.

INSPECTOR GENERAL

SOME DETAILS ABOUT COST OF LIVING.

---

1. Rooms for nothing less than 50 cents. a day, but if one wants hot water to bathe, he has to pay 75 cents. per day, i.e. about 15-20 dollors per month. .. .. about 45 to 60 rupees.

2. There is no boarding house system as in England and all rooms are on what is called the "American plan", i.e. without board. For meals one has to go to restaurants and cafes, but here and there, one can get vegetarian restaurants where only boiled vegitables are given. For a meal of a cup of milk (or coffee or cocoa) and 3 bits of toast and fried potatoes or boiled vegetables, one has to pay 50 cents, i.e. Rs.1-8-0.

3. The cost of a banana or plantain is between 1 anna and two and for getting bunyans (cotton) washed, we have to pay 4 annas and for shirts' washing nearly 6 annas. To have a cotton suit washed, one has to pay 1½ dollors or Rs.4-8-0 and for a tweed or flannel suit, 2 dollors or Rs.6.

4. To remove trunks from a room to another room or to a Railway station we have to pay Rs.1½, i.e. 50 cents for big or small trunks.

5. Games are out of question, for to play one hour at Tennis one has to pay 20 cents, i.e. nearly 10 annas for one hour and also he must buy balls. This is hopeless for persons like me as it means nearly 10 dollars or Rs.30 for Tennis.

6. Students have to buy books, note books and occasionally have to buy shirts or other underwear etc. and with the heavy fees of Harvard, it is not possible to live with £200 a year. This applies to a student taking Organic Chemistry and having to spend some money on alcohol and other costly apparatus, all of which he will have to buy and sell when he goes, at half cost.

"C o p y"

TNR.

INSPECTOR GENERAL

CHEMICAL LABORATORY OF HARVARD COLLEGE.

August 11, 1915.

A student devoting all of his time to research in Organic Chemistry in this laboratory would incur expenses of approximately the following amounts:

Tuition	$ 150
Laboratory Fee	32
Chemicals & Apparatus about	75
Total	$ 257

(Sd) Arthur Becket Lamb.

"C o p y"

Yes.

Inspector General.

TNR.

about

Central College,
Bangalore,
25th October 1915.

Dear Mr. Shama Rao,

With regard to the Memorandum regarding cost of living in America, a copy of which you enclosed in your D.O. of the 6th instant, I am afraid I cannot give any opinion from first-hand knowledge as I have never been there. But I shewed the memo to Mr. Webster of the Y.M.C.A., who has lived in the States as a student, and he tells me that the prices mentioned by Mr. Srinivasa Rao tally with his own experience, and also that Boston is a particularly expensive place to live in. He says that a man who had lived a long time in America could probably get lodgings for much less than the sum mentioned, but that this would not be easy for a foreigner new to the country. There is also the rise in the cost of living resulting from the war to be considered. The prices of many commodities have risen more in the States than in England, and of course this leads at once to increased charges for lodging etc.

So far, therefore, as I can give an opinion without a first-hand knowledge of details, it is that in view of the increased cost of living owing to the war, and of the circumstance that Boston is a particularly expensive place, Mr. Srinivasa Rao might very well be given the additional £35 for which he asks. This is an increase of 18 per cent., and I think there is very little doubt that the cost of living is more than 18% above the figures for normal times and other localities.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) F.L. Usher,

"Copy"
Yes.

TNR

INSPECTOR GENERAL

D.O.Letter No.211 dated 7th October 1915 from Mr. S.G. Forbes to the Inspector General of Education.

Your D.O. No.571 dated the 6th October with enclosure received this morning and I am of the opinion that, for a man to live on anywise near £200 (something less than $.1,000.00) per annum at Harvard University, especially a vegetarian, he will have to be exceedingly careful in his expenditure and can indulge in nothing except the very barest necessities. From my own standpoint, I do not think it is possible for a man to get through decently at this amount and I consider it very highly commendable in Mr. Srinivasa Rao in only asking an additional £35.

You must understand that Harvard is the most expensive place in the United States, if not in the entire world, for a student, as this University is patronized almost exclusively by the wealthiest people in America. This applies also to Cambridge and Cornell Universities.

I might take this opportunity of informing you that there are a great many other Universities and Technological Institutes in the United States that have exactly the same curriculum, offer the same scientific courses with equally as good or better laboratories and who have eminent men as Professors, that can be attended to most comfortably with all expenses including College fees, clothing, food, books etc., for approximately three hundred to five hundred dollars per year. If you care to investigate the subject and make comparisons of curricula and advantages offered by the various Universities and Technological Schools where it is not so costly, I would be very glad to give you the names and addresses, so that you can correspond with their Presidents, who, I am sure, will be glad to give you full information on the subject. I feel quite confident that any of our students could secure the very best of education and training in any line at

about

about £100 per annum, exclusive of travelling expenses to and from America.

"c o p y"

Inspector General.

TNR.

24

GPB—3,210—1-6-15

Edn. 5]

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION IN MYSORE.

No. 9688-90 / 435 Enc. 1

Bangalore, 22nd November *1915*

DIARY No. 1952

19-10
SECTION Ed
FILE No. 2-15
SERIAL No. 57

From

Rao Bahadur
M. SHAMA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,
Inspector-General of Education in Mysore.

To

Peter George D'Souza, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Education and Agriculture *Department.*

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No.8325/388 dated 4th November 1915, recommending the increase of the scholarship of Mr. M.G.Srinivasa Rao, Foreign scholar in America, by £35 per annum, I have the honour to submit herewith for the information of Government copy of letter dated 14th October 1915 from Mr. Srinivasa Rao giving some details of the cost of living in America.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

M. Shama Rao,
Inspector General.

TNR.

Letter dated 14th October 1915 from Mr. M.G. Srinivasa Rao, M.A., Sunmer Road, Cambridge, (Mass) to the Inspector General of Education.

I thank you very much for the cable you so promptly sent me. I was wavering the whole day of the 29th Sept., though much inclined to study at Harvard instead of elsewhere. This desire was more pronounced after I had seen the Professors and when they expressed their willingness in encouraging terms to do their best for me. Your welcome cable reaching me on the 30th settled any doubt I had and I paid my fees and registered myself.

I hope you have kindly realized the costly situation I have found myself in, for I am sure it is hard for one to realize (especially when he has not lived in these parts) that I could consume every month about 30 rupees of rice! and that a single man. My big & family at Bangalore does not consume as much, nor I believe your very big establishment, on this scale. But yet when I obtain for about 8 annas a little less than quarter seer of rice and when one has to live chiefly on rice tho' he be in America, I believe he cannot help eating daily half a seer of rice, i.e. about a rupee's worth of rice. Again by paying about 5 annas I get here stringed beans (చిక్కుడు కాయలు) enough for one meal - hardly enough I think and yet I am told that during winter when vegetation is stunted, I may not get that much for even 8 annas and sometimes none for any price. And I am a strict vegetarian and I do not know if during winter I have to eat only potatoes for my vegetables. I buy some times two big green chillies (దొండ్ల మిరపకాయలు as we call it), only two for about 3 annas, i.e. 6 cents. The ordinary green chillies cannot be had at all. I hope you will thus get an idea that when I sometimes feel like cooking myself, (for what the

the land lady supplies me every day is nothing but insipid and boiled potatoes, for they are cheap and I some times am bored and like to eat something with a taste) - i.e. on a Saturday or on a Sunday I go to the groceries and come with a small bag under arm, a paper bag containing some rice and vegetables having paid about 1¼ rupees for that! Butter equivalent to what we use for one meal as ghee, I get for 6 annas.

With this the chemicals and apparatus which in keeping with the high cost of everything else in America (being usually twice and 3 times costlier than what we obtain in Bangalore) swell up my expenses, especially with the enhanced rates due to war. I can show you my book wherein I am asked to record all that I have to buy from the chemical store, how for every little chemical, a bit of glass tubing I have got to pay. Some of the co-workers in the Research Laboratory who worked last year only half time (i.e. they were also instructors and spent the other half time in coaching up under graduates) tell me they had to pay between 60 to 70 dollars for the chemicals they used up. At this rate and at the rate I am using chemicals now for the past two weeks, I may have to spend very much more than what Professor Lamb mentioned in his estimate I sent to you. I now realize that tho' he apparently is director of the Laboratory, he is not in charge (and Prof. Kohler is) of the Organic Laboratory and he could not give a fair estimate of the cost of a year's full work.

I have not exaggerated a bit in my statements, only I give all things graphically, so that you may kindly realize my situation. Just now nothing sure what more amount the Government may sanction me, I am very carefully choosing between several reagents and have to spend more time in cleaning up and in recovering some used materials than I would, if

if I knew I could spend more money and save the more valuable time now taken up in these side experiments.

I beg to inform you that you will therefore do your best to get Government sanction me something more than £30 a year extra, for, my request for about £30 made in my letter of August 12th was based on the estimate then provided me by Professor Lamb. Also I request that you will instruct Messrs. Coutts & Co., to pay me (and any other students whom you might have sent here) my scholarship at 4/90 dollars a pound. The loss otherwise at current exchange rates is enormous to me and others.

Your kind note addressed informally to Harward University which I brought with me has been of great service to me and has secured advantages; ~~from~~ for on the strength of that I was excused the usual deposit of 400 dollars or the deposit of a bond signed by two Americans of good standing to guarantee payment of any dues on my part towards the University.

The Professors, the Dean and the Bursar are very nice men and treat the Hindus especially with great consideration. Prof. C.L. Jackson under whom I was to have worked has retired, but he was present on the opening day to see that I was well installed and has by personal applications secured me a lot of advantages and once a week he comes to me with instructions for future week etc. But Professor Kohler is the chief person under whom I work. I have to take courses in German and French, for they refer me to the original articles on Chemistry in these languages and this impedes my progress at the rate I expected to go. I am studying Organic Chemistry and nothing else - for these are all required for the degree examination and I have enough to do in Organic Chemistry alone in order to gain some sound knowledge.

The Laboratory though it is poor in appearance turns out really good work especially in the under graduate and graduate courses. This is due to the fact that for a strength of about 450 to 500 students in all the courses (including post graduate work) there are about 20 instructors and about 10 Professors and Assistant Professors making in all about 30 men to supervise the work. Kindly compare this with the number of Assistants we have and you will see at once that the efficiency must necessarily be about 4 to 5 times than in our colleges. Also in Laboratory work when small batches of 40 boys come in (just like there), there will be one chief man and about 4 others, instructors - giving 8 students to a teacher. He questions them during work and helps them in various ways to fix good ideas in the mind and to carry on the work quicker.

I will attend some of these courses just to get some idea as to how they work and report to you further. The students thus get a ~~xxxx~~ lot of attention here - not possible in the Central College.

The number of Professors and instructors being so many they each have so little work to do during a week and consequently have a lot of time to devote to his own research and whether we people at the Central College do not conduct any because of heavy work or for some other reasons I will leave you to guess. But these are facts here. The instructors and Professors of each different course like inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, Biological chemistry, meet now and then to discuss the plan of work for a certain period and thus ensure uniformity of tuition - more especially as each batch of students get different instructors during their Laboratory work and may thus get instructions of very varying nature. The instructors are chosen from amongst post graduates who devote as I said about half time for this and half time ~~for~~

~~this and~~ ~~half time~~ for their Ph.D. Degree, taking in all about 4 to 5 years to get the Doctor's degree. These men are therefore employed on a small salary and a similar arrangement could be done with our own men there too. A man who has got through his B.A. at least may be given a scholarship ranging from 30 Rs. to 40 Rs. giving preference to Mysoreans where we have to decide between men of equal merit. When 3 or 4 men be employed thus, they must be asked to look after the different batches of intermediate Practical work (of course they have not got to lecture - this being always done by the highest Professor here and not by a Demonstrator as is the case in Central College - for they think that a lecture is very important) and work their own advanced course in the advanced Laboratory. Here too while working they may be consulted by the B.A. class students who are working in the same Laboratory, so that these instructors not only help the Intermediate Laboratory work but also the B.A. class work. ~~xxx~~ If an inducement ~~xx~~ be held that only 1st class men will get Rs.40 as instructors after they graduate and that must study for M.A. also as instructors, our students will study better and also will be best fitted for a teacher's work even if they should join the Education Department after getting the M.A.

Excuse me for suggesting the above, but I think that this plan is very efficient as I see it worked here and we can employ nearly 3 to 4 men for 100 rupees a month instead of paying one Demonstrator that salary. I don't mean to say by this that our present staff needs curtailing - not at all - we have not enough men to get through the work efficiently. I have to point out also that the College hours here are usually 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. some times as early as 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. This added to the number of instructors and efficient supervision apparently must make the boys about 5 or 6 times more efficient than our boys, but actually it is not so. They may be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ times or twice as good in Labo-

ratory

Laboratory work than our boys, but in good sound theory which is absolutely essential to understand the rationale of Practical work, they are backward for the following reasons:-

The early College hours means waste of all the precious morning for the boys - for we in India have the morning till 10 A.M. for our study. Here the boys get up at 7 A.M. or 7-30, shaving, dressing, takes an hour, then they go to restaurants to breakfast. For there is no boarding system in the houses where they are rooming. They like to "dine out" as they call it even if boarding arrangements are possible in the house where he has a room. This means an hour nearly and he goes to school at 9 A.M. The lectures are all supposed to be over by 1 P.M., ~~xxxxxxxx~~ after which students of the Practical science are expected to work in the Laboratory and students of History and Philosophy to spend the rest of the day in Libraries. But they have got to go again for lunch at 12 noon. This means about 45 minutes to 1 hour at noons and some go to the Laboratory or Library after that, but others go out to play or do some thing else. So that the afternoons are wasted to some extent. In the evening they have got the dinner which is always very elaborately prepared for. They change dresses and take over 1½ to 2 hours to take dinner and return to rooms between 8 or 9 P.M. They have thus 2 or 3 hours of study during nights and no hour of the precious morning for study as we have. Sundays of course is a regular holiday and they must devote that for pleasures. So that with 4 to 5 times our staff and 1½ times more working College hours, the efficiency of boys is not 5 to 6 times, but may be 1½ times. Soon as one gets up early in the morning here, he can do nothing else but shave, dress and go to ~~xxx~~ eat. I am lucky that I can't go to a restaurant where they serve meat always or serve vegetables cooked by boiling merely and is insipid to me; otherwise perhaps I had to waste as much time

on these "3 eatings" a day, about 3 or 4 hours. We have to dress to go to these and then walk to and back some distance meeting friends. My land lady cooks what I bring her and as she brings all to my room, I can eat there in any dress I like. That is, by virtue of necessity I have not got to waste my time, otherwise it is a great temptation to dine out in company and meet friends 3 times a day in restaurants.

I have, I hope, given you some idea about the under graduate studies and also graduate study here. I think our system for undergraduate study is more efficient. Only I think there must be more supervision on the part of teachers; for, here the teachers I think take more pains than in India. That is but natural as otherwise the students with their various engagements and toilets and "dining outs" per day, will be left little time to read or digest and the teacher here does all that work for the students. They question well in the class and small classes are made out of big sections to give individual attention. I mean that more work per hour is turned out by a teacher here, though by the week he works much less than any teacher in India. When, it is quite common in our High Schools that a teacher works 20 to 22 hours a week, to do which will stun a man here. They all work never more than 12 to 15 hours a week. That leaves them more time to prepare, to meet and discuss methods of work and arrange a programme. The Professors have only 7 or 8 hours work a week, the rest of their time being devoted to research and the rest of their work being divided amongst his numerous assistants and instructors.

dinning out ?

I have written a long letter and this has taken me over 2 to 3 hours. I could get no time to write this for the past 15 days and so I acknowledge your cablegram only now instead of earlier.

I hope you will kindly see that my requests are sanctioned,

viz.,

viz., increasing my yearly scholarship and of paying that amount to me in Dollors at 4/90 per pound. These two are vital to my study here.

Hope my long letter will be of some use in making our College work more efficient. I hear that the Mysore University is going to be located in Mysore. I hope if plans are made you will arrange for a big laboratory, to take in 150 to 200 boys in Intermediate class and not like what we are doing now. That way alone we will be able to turn out good number of graduates.

I remain, Yours Sincerely,

(Sd) M.G. Srinivasa Rao,

P.S.

The following is a copy of some portions of the address given by Dr. H.N. Mac Cracken to the graduate and chiefly to the undergraduate students. You will see therein that what I am writing about the students and how they waste their time is also observed by one of the Professors.-

He says, "I call attention to the concentration and purpose with which students in professional and graduate schools pursue their studies. evidence of this is afforded every day in the University. The seriousness and industry of law and business school men is often a revelation to the under graduate who is bent on enjoying his "four year's loaf". (He refers to his course before he takes the degree) etc. etc.

"To urge the undergraduate however to a more serious life does not promise much. The scholarship groups and prizes undoubtedly have considerable effect as a stimulus. But on the other hand the lax requirements which can be technically satisfied by nominal effort actually promote slip-shod work. In

some of the more advanced courses especially the theory in force is that of allowing wide choice and initiative as regards reading. Some times this reading is not tested and the student's word is taken as sufficient evidence that it has been adequately done. Without wishing to attack student honor unduly, one may suggest that this is not a very dependable method. It results too often in glancing over the matter to be read if the reader has a conscience; otherwise nothing is done".

"The elective system goes too far when it not only allows choice among courses but between working and not working after the course has been chosen. If students refuse to absorb culture when it is placed invitingly before them, it is possible to require it for the passing mark and thus to appeal to self interest".

As I have explained in my letter though the staff is very efficient and numerous, the out turn of work is not commensurate with the number of teachers or their merits. The reason is not far to seek. The students waste their afternoons after about 12 o'clock and in the evenings there will, every day of the week, be the meeting of some club, (smokers, musical smokers, ball club meetings and at the end of every one some tea and refreshments) and this takes up an hour or two of night. Every Saturday night there is positively some engagement for the undergraduate especially, that he has hardly any time to read.

I hope I have given you some idea of the kind of work an undergraduate turns out here.

But as has been pointed by Professor Mac Cracken and also by me, in more advanced courses the students work hard, but their foundation has been poorly laid indeed and though they work very hard in their post graduate course the result is

not

not so pronounced as it ought to be.

(Sd) M.G. Srinivasa Rao,

"C o p y"

Inspector General.

TNR.

Alternative off. for Sri. M. G. Srinivasa Rao's Schp. 35

G.R.S. 28]

2 [illegible]

Edn File No. 2-15
Serial No. 62

Diary No. of letter replied to_____

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.
( )

, the 191 .

Date of issue 28-12-15

Signed by Sri. Gn. S. R.

READ—

G.O. no. 45-6/Edn. 370-13-2 of 2-7-14 sanctioning a Schp. of £200 per annum for two years to Sri. M. G. Srinivasa Rao for undergoing training in Organic chemistry in England.

~~ORDER THEREON.—No.~~

2. G.O. no. 2371-2/Edn. 2-14-11 of 8-1-15 permitting Sri Srinivasa Rao to undergo training in America instead of in England.

over.

SUBJECT.

3 Letter no. 8325/338 & 4.11.15 from the D.G. of Edn. in regard submitting copy of a letter & 12.8.15 from Mr. Srinivasa Rao representing that on account of the War the cost of life & stay at Boston has increased, and recommending that the amount of the Schp. may be raised ~~to~~ by £35 per annum with effect from 15.7.15 the date on which Mr. Srinivasa Rao landed in America

4. Letter no. 9688-90/435 & 22.11.15 from the same Officer forwarding copy of another letter & 14.10.15 from Mr. Srinivasa Rao stating that he has joined the ~~the~~ Harvard University and giving some details of the cost of life in America and requesting that his Schp. may be paid to him at 4/90 dollar per pound.

Order No. 3011-2.

In his letter & 12.8.15 Mr. Srinivasa Rao said that the cost

G. R. S. 27]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(*Continuation sheet draft form.*)

of study at the Univ. of Illinois was not so heavy as to necessitate an enhancement of the Schp. sanctioned to him whereas if he was required to stay at Harvard an addition would be absolutely necessary.

2. In his letter d. 14.10.15 Mr. Srinivasa Rao says that he has joined ~~and~~ the Harvard University.

3. Govt. approve of Mr. Srinivasa Rao's having joined the Harvard Univ.

4. ~~Separate If any addition to the Schp. is required Separate orders will be passed regarding the enhancement of the Schp.~~

Any addition to the Scholarship which he may require will be sanctioned as an advance, pending further enquiries into the sufficiency or otherwise of the amount sanctioned.

Sec. & A.

To the Dy. of Edn. 4/12/15

" confdl.

Enquiry to be made by Education Dept. whether the scholarship already sanctioned ~~has been exhausted~~ is to be

16/12/15

23.12.15

8/1/16